

Please Consider Membership in the Nashville City Cemetery Association

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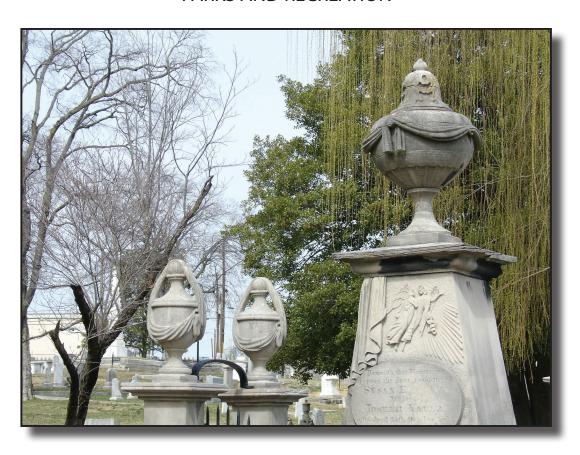
The UPS Store Cool Springs—Daren Thompson



## Nashville Living History Tour

Saturday, October 15, 2016, 3:00–7:00 p.m.

LIVING HISTORY TOUR PRESENTED BY
THE NASHVILLE CITY CEMETERY ASSOCIATION
IN COOPERATION WITH THE METROPOLITAN HISTORICAL COMMISSION OF
NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY, METROPOLITIAN BOARD OF
PARKS AND RECREATION



The Nashville City Cemetery Association, Incorporated is a membership organization that works to protect, preserve, restore and raise public awareness of the Nashville City Cemetery in collaboration with the Historical Commission of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, Tennessee.

Visit our website: http://thenashvillecitycemetery.org

## Today's Tour

JESSE A. BRYAN—A Clarksville native and supporter of Gov. "Lean Jimmy" Jones, Bryan had a short temper. After a Polk supporter published an insulting letter about Gov. Jones, Bryan sought retribution. Bryan and Gideon Matlock met on the streets of Nashville in 1843 to shoot it out. When the smoke cleared, Bryan came out second best.

JAMES and SARAH BYRUM—James Byrum was known as a gentle giant. He worked to support his wife and children by operating a toll gate on Lebanon Pike (Scott's Hollow) during the Civil War. In the winter of 1865 he lost his life over a small squabble. Sarah narrowly escaped with her own life, and brought her husband's killers to justice. The couple were buried for a short time in the City Cemetery, and later moved to a family plot in Wilson County.

JOHN DICKINSON and THOMAS JEFFERSON OVERTON—No relation to the famous Charles, John Dickinson was a "New Hampshire Yankee". After a very public argument with Thomas J. Overton, the pair agreed to a duel in 1805. Overton's second was none other than Andrew Jackson. Both survived the duel and went on to die years later.

**WILLIAM HEFFERNAN**—A well-known and well-loved figure in Civil War era Nashville, Heffernan was gunned down by miscreants in a crime spree. He was loved by many for his open and kind-hearted nature. The Catholic Heffernan was buried in the predominantly Protestant section of the City Cemetery. Justice was served, and nearly 10,000 attended the hanging of his murderers in 1866.

ROBERT and MARY PORTERFIELD—Robert Porterfield was the victim of one of the most spectacular scandals of 19th century Nashville. Mary Porterfield began a torrid and public affair with E.Z.C. Judson (known as "Ned Buntline"). Robert confronted Judson, and the affair ended with Robert's death. Judson was later mobbed, shot at, jumped from a window, and strung up in Public Square. He survived to tell the tale, which was more than Robert could say.

**SUSAN**—Susan was an enslaved woman working in the household of Sarah Childress Polk. She slipped slowly into insanity following an illness in 1861. Despite efforts to watch her, she managed to smuggle a knife from the kitchen. Sarah murdered her children, then used the knife on herself. They sleep together in an unmarked grave, one of the many forgotten souls whose story has slipped away with the years.

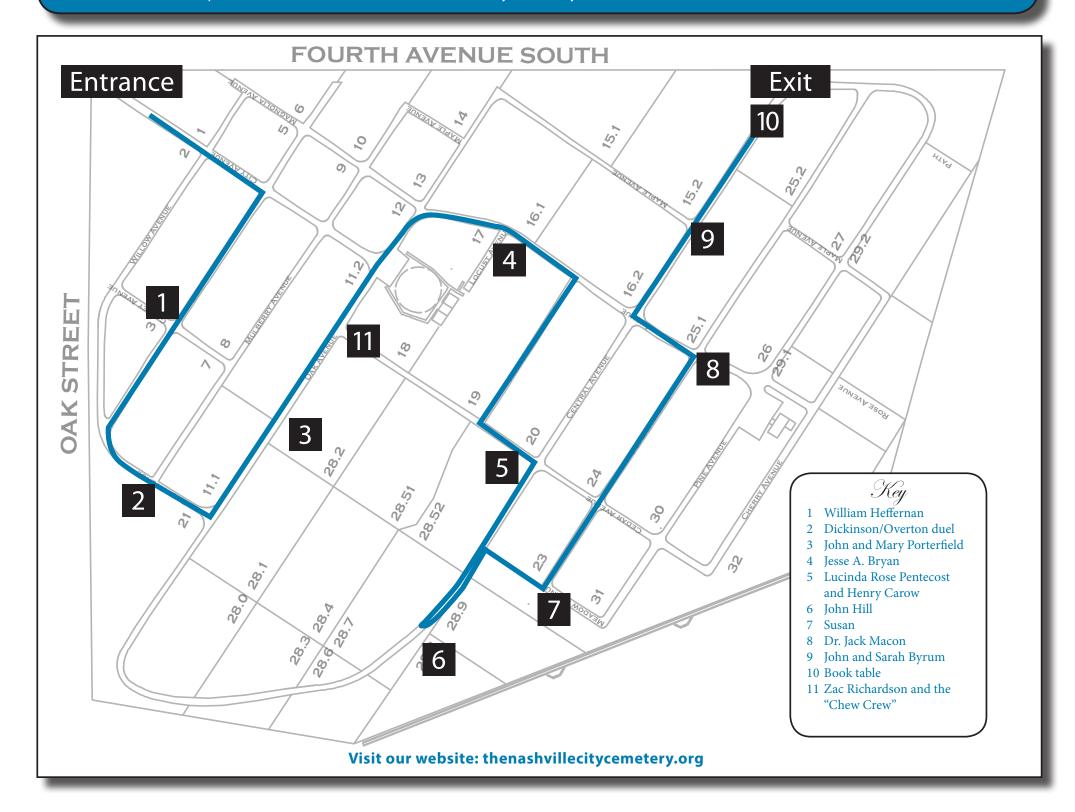
**JOHN HILL**—The Tennessee State Penitentiary opened in 1831. Just two years later, a cholera epidemic killed 19 prisoners. John Hill will talk about his crimes and those of his fellow inmates, and what led to their unique markers in the cemetery today.

**LUCINDA ROSE PENTECOST**—Married at the tender age of 17, Lucinda Pentecost thought she had a good marriage to a troubled man. She fell ill in 1864 and was prescribed brandy as a medication. Her medicine was tampered with, and ultimately, the killer was never caught.

**HENRY CAROW**—A native of Ireland, Carow moved to the United States and began practicing medicine. After moving around, he settled in Tennessee. A chance meeting with a young man from Sparta led to Carow's death when his patient shot him in the back of the head. His murderer, P.P. Trewitt, stated that Carow had insulted his sister and needed to pay.

## Brief History of the Cemetery

Opened in 1822, the historic City Cemetery is the oldest continuously operated public cemetery in Nashville with over 20,000 interments. Egalitarian from the beginning, this sacred space is the final resting place of people of every race, religion, and economic status. Many of the founders and early leaders of Nashville are buried here. Walk down the lanes, listen to the stories, and you will begin to feel that you have stepped back in time. The quiet beauty of this place can provide an escape from the busy world outside its walls. The Nashville City Cemetery is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Nashville City Cemetery was officially designated an arboretum by the Nashville Tree Foundation on June 2, 2013. Over 40 different species of trees and shrubs reside within the walls of the Nashville City Cemetery. Welcome to the Living History Tour . . . Welcome to Nashville's past . . . Welcome to the historic Nashville City Cemetery.





#### **Living History Tour Sponsors**

Brian Allison, author

\*Carter G. Baker

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\*Albert Austin & Descendants of Gov. William

and Cecelia Carroll

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# Special Thank You

Ashley Layhew, this year's chairperson, for her tireless work and research to bring these characters to life and to help bring the "residents" of the city cemetery and their stories to the people of Middle Tennessee. Also to Brian Allison for his inspirational stories that helped us pick the tales for today's tale. He will be selling copies of his new book at the tour and will be giving a portion of today's proceeds to the NCCA for upkeep of the cemetery. Metro Historical Commission Foundation is also selling it's most recent book with a portion of today's proceeds also going to the NCCA.

<sup>\*</sup> Current or former Nashville City Cemetery Association Board Member

#### 2016 Nashville City Cemetery Living History Tour

	Historical Character	Actor/Interpreter
Stop 1	William Heffernan	John Allyn
Stop 2	John Dickinson Thomas J. Overton	Jim Hoobler Albert Austin
Stop 3	Mary Porterfield de Janon Robert Porterfield	Erica Dahlgren Danny Murphy
Stop 4	Jesse A. Bryan	Carter Baker
Stop 5	Lucinda Rose Pentecost Henry Carow	Autumn Birdsong Matthew Sullivan
Stop 6	John Hill	Fred Zahn
Stop 7	Susan	Jacobia Dowell
Stop 8	Dr. Jack Macon	Frank Harrison
Stop 9	John Byrum	Ben Engelhardt
Stop 10	Nashville City Cemetery Historical Books for Sale and Membership Applications available	
Stop 11	Zac Richardson and the "Chew Crew" (live sheep)	
	Board buses for the return trip to the Parking Lot	